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EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF THE
M. H. DE YOUNG MUSEUM
ANNUAL REPORT

3 1959

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1959

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT OF THE M. H. DE YOUNG MEMORIAL MUSEUM

Charles Lindstrom, Director of Education
Miriam Lindstrom, Associate Director of Education

Total De Young Museum attendance---

10 years ago (1948 - 1949 fiscal year).....963,053

Last year (1959 calendar year).....822,306

Total De Young Museum Education Department attendance---

10 years ago (1948 - 1949 fiscal year).....20,011

Last year (1959 calendar year).....40,024

The President of the American Association of Museums, Joseph Allen Patterson, wrote in MUSEUM NEWS, November 1959: "The museum today is in the midst of a cultural renaissance taking place throughout the United States and Canada. Attendance has in many instances doubled during the past ten years..... The emphasis is no longer on collection and preservation, but on education and the interpretation and use of assembled resources....."

In 1948 - 1949 one out of 48 visitors to the Museum came to attend an Education Department event.

In 1958 - 1959 because of the Van Gogh exhibition the total Museum attendance was unusually high: 1,174,517. Of these 53,089 or one out of 22 visitors came to attend an Education Department event.

In 1959 one out of 20 visitors to the Museum came to attend a lecture, practice course or gallery tour. Each event was a serious study of from 45 minutes to three hours in length.

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The De Young Museum's education program has won praise among American museums for its originality, seriousness and breadth; it receives many expressions of appreciation from the public it serves. Classes have been filled beyond capacity: the current "Exercises In Perception" has an attendance of over 100 where facilities allow for a maximum of 40; what began as "Seminars In The History Of Art" has expanded to twice-weekly lecture series for audiences of as many as 200; registration for children's classes has had to be limited to a fraction of the number who apply.

Despite the doubling of service during the past 10 years the Education Department has had no increase in personnel, no increase in assistance, virtually no improvement in makeshift quarters and facilities. The two curators who create, perform and direct the public educational services besides performing many other curatorial duties have received no promotion in their almost 20 years of devoted work here.

We have commenced a volunteer assistance program and have already been aided by the time and skill contributed by members of our public who believe as we do in the importance of the Museum as an educational institution. But the direction of this work also increases the work load. We again express our need for curatorial assistants and for a secretary (the curators operate entirely without secretarial assistance, doing all the typing, filing, stencil-cutting, telephoning and other office chores of their department).

We presented plans in 1945 and again in 1952 for the replacement of the condemned warehouse by an education department wing with a proper auditorium, painting amphitheater, children's classrooms, teaching gallery, etc. We are now requesting funds in the 1960 - 61 budget for studies of this project to be made by the City Architect's office. We shall presently resubmit plans. We believe that the figures which follow prove a public desire for this long-delayed accommodation.

LECTURES AND COURSES FOR ADULTS (226 events)Seminars In The History Of Art

27 lectures: "Contemporaries of Van Gogh", "Similarities
And Distinctions In The Arts Of Asia And The West".....3,865

Exercises In Oil Painting

61 lecture-demonstration-practice sessions.....2,649

Painting From The Model

76 instruction sessions.....2,994

Lectures For Special Groups

19 formal lectures: 10 in the Museum, 6 outside to local
audiences, 3 to Portland Art Museum audiences.....1,857

Gallery Tours

43 adult study groups and college classes.....1,487

Teachers and Adult Leaders Accompanying Children's Tours

835 classes. Teachers and leaders are given special at-
tention to aid them to lead future classes independently..1,010

TOTAL ADULT ATTENDANCE.....13,862

CLASSES AND TOURS FOR CHILDREN (915 events)Picture-Making, for ages 4 to 8

46 sessions Saturday mornings.....2,314

Art And Nature, for ages 9 to 11

39 sessions Wednesdays after school.....1,366

Art Club, for ages 12 to 18

38 sessions Thursdays after school.....921
4,601

Gallery Tours For Schools And Organizations

(Many teachers guide their own classes after having
had Education Department instruction)

708 classes, Elementary Grades.....19,268

84 classes, Junior and Senior High School Grades...2,293
21,561

TOTAL CHILDREN'S ATTENDANCE.....26,162

TOTAL ATTENDANCE.....40,024

The Education Department's slide-lending service to museums, universities and schools was extended to the educational television station KQED for a long series of programs on art and music.

Charles Lindstrom was invited by the Portland Art Museum to present two lectures on the art of Vincent van Gogh preceding the exhibition there, and Miriam Lindstrom was guest speaker for Oregon art teachers, supervisors and Museum personnel at a meeting held at the Portland Art Museum.

A third printing of Children's Art by Miriam Lindstrom was issued by the University of California Press, and the original children's pictures used in the book were exhibited at the National Gallery of Rhodesia in Salisbury. The book is in use as a text at a number of teachers' colleges in this country and has received favorable attention abroad.

Academic credit was obtained by two students at S. F. State College for training received as volunteer teaching assistants to Miriam Lindstrom. Art teachers from Palo Alto and San Jose also served as observer-assistants in preparation for establishing similar children's classes in their communities.

We wish to express our gratitude to the following who volunteered their time and skills to assist the curators of the Education Department:
Mrs. Charles Renfrew, Miss Elizabeth Peltzer, Miss Diana Williams, Miss Christine Moya, Mrs. Edgar Osgood, Mrs. Donald McNeil, Mrs. William Kilduff, Mrs. William Parrot, Jr., Mr. Akio Kobayashi, and for valuable slides and scholarly assistance Dr. James Eakle.

